

the residue corresponding to BPTI position 45 is Phe and the residue corresponding to BPTI position 43 is Asn.

103. (New) The protein of claim 101 in which the residue corresponding to BPTI position 42 is Gly.

104. (New) The protein of claim 102 in which the residue corresponding to BPTI position 42 is Gly.

105. (New) The protein of claim 101 where the residues corresponding to BPTI positions 39-42 are not Met-Gly-Asn-Gly.

106. (New) The protein of claim 102 where the residues corresponding to BPTI positions 39-42 are not Met-Gly-Asn-Gly.

107. (New) The protein of claim 104 where the residues corresponding to BPTI positions 39-42 are not Met-Gly-Asn-Gly.

108. (New) The protein of claim 101 which the residue corresponding to BPTI position 42 is selected from the group consisting of Arg, Ala, Gly, Ser, Glu, His, Asn, Met, Asp, Lys, Glu and Leu.

109. (New) The protein of claim 101 which has a binding affinity for human neutrophil elastase in the range of 100 pm to 1 pm.

110. (New) The protein of claim 101 which comprises the amino acid sequence of a protein selected from the group consisting of EpiNE7.1-7.40.